

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(11)

EP 1 014 629 A3

(51) Int Cl: H04L 12/58

(88) Date of publication A3:
21.11.2001 Bulletin 2001/47

(43) Date of publication A2:
28.06.2000 Bulletin 2000/26

(21) Application number: 99308901.0

(22) Date of filing: 09.11.1999

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE

Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: 19.11.1998 US 109088 P
22.12.1998 US 219072

(71) Applicant: Phone.Com Inc.
Redwood City, CA 94063 (US)

(72) Inventors:

- Oberhaus, Jared M.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (US)

- Laursen, Andrew L.
San Mateo, CA 94402 (US)
- Smethers, Paul A.
Cupertino, CA 95014 (US)
- Greer, Russell S.
Los Gatos, CA 95030 (US)

(74) Representative: Ablett, Graham Keith
Ablett & Stebbing,
Caparo House,
101-103 Baker Street
London W1M 1FD (GB)

(54) Mail synchronization of remote and local mail systems

(57) The present invention relates to a mail synchronization system. A local mail system (104) provides electronic mail services to a desktop computer (114) and includes a local mail server (116) and a mail synchronization client (118). The local mail server manages storage, receipt and delivery of electronic mail messages with respect to the desktop computer, can display a list of electronic mail messages in a local inbox, and stores the list in the local mail server. A wireless mail system (112) provides electronic mail services to a mobile device (108) and includes a mobile device mail application, a mobile device mail server and a mail synchronization server. The mobile device mail server manages storage, receipt and delivery of electronic mail messages with respect to the mobile device, can display a list of electronic mail messages in a remote inbox, and stores the list in the mobile device mail server. The mail synchronization client and said mail synchronization server interact to synchronize the list of the electronic mail messages for the local inbox and the remote inbox in a two way manner without user interaction. Thus, the user is able to effectively see and interact with only a single "virtual" mailbox, which is the synchronized combination of the two different electronic mailboxes.

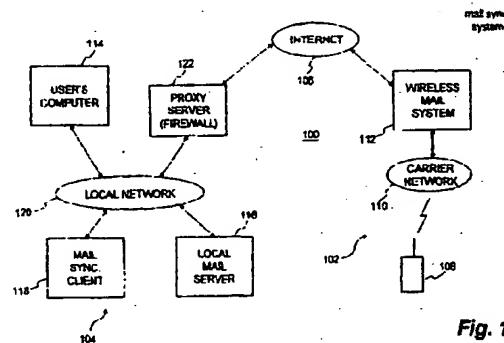


Fig. 1



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 99 30 8901

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.)		
X	US 5 758 354 A (TSO MICHAEL MAN-HAK ET AL) 26 May 1998 (1998-05-26) * column 2, line 16-28 * * column 4, line 38 - column 5, line 18 * * column 6, line 58 - column 7, line 14 * * column 9, line 7-22 * * column 13, line 8-48 * * figures 3A-3D * * figures 4A-4B * * figures 6A-6F * * column 9A-9E *	1-10	H04L12/58		
A	US 5 625 818 A (ZARMER CRAIG ET AL) 29 April 1997 (1997-04-29) * claims 1-3 *	1-10			
A	HILD S G ET AL: "MOBILIZING APPLICATIONS", IEEE PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS, US, IEEE COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY, VOL. 4, NR. 5, PAGE(S) 26-34 XP000721303 ISSN: 1070-9916 * page 30, column 1, paragraph 2 - page 30, column 2, paragraph 5 *	1-10			
A	US 5 757 669 A (CHRISTIE DAVID ET AL) 26 May 1998 (1998-05-26) * column 3, line 8 - column 6, line 57 *	1-10	606F H04L		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims					
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner			
MUNICH	19 September 2001	Wolf, W			
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS					
X : particularly relevant if taken alone	T : theory or principle underlying the invention				
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category	E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date				
A : technological background	D : document cited in the application				
C : non-written disclosure	L : document cited for other reasons				
F : intermediate document	B : member of the same patent family, corresponding document				

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 99 30 8901

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

19-09-2001

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5758354	A	26-05-1998	AU WO	1521897 A 9724678 A	28-07-1997 10-07-1997
US 5625818	A	29-04-1997		NONE	
US 5757669	A	26-05-1998	US	6182117 B	30-01-2001

THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)